

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Pruden (U.S. Patent No. 1,891,179). Claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Leonard (U.S. Patent No. 2,554,111). Claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Adilleta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,324,584). Claims 10, 14, 18, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Musker (EP Patent No. 0 043 700). Claim 22 was indicated as allowable. Claims 11 to 13 and 15 to 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 10, 11 and 14 to 16 have been amended.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**35 U.S.C. 102(b) Rejections:**

**Pruden, U.S. Patent No. 1,891,179**

Claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Pruden (U.S. Patent No. 1,891,179).

Pruden discloses using an asbestos sheet 11 to completely engage the outer surface of a wooden ironing board 10, as well as side edges 12 of the board 10, so as to overlap an underside of the board 10 with portions 13. (Page 1, Lines 51 to 55). A metal sheet 14 overlies the sheet of asbestos 11 and engages side edges 15 of the asbestos sheet 11 so returned portions 16 of the metal sheet 14 marginally engage portions 13. (Page 1, Lines 57 to 64). Suitable fastening elements 17 penetrate portions 13, 16 and unite the sheets 11, 14 against the wooden board 10. (Page 1, Lines 64 to 68).

Claim 10, as amended, recites a heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board.

It is respectfully submitted that Pruden does not disclose “the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner,” as now recited in claim 10. The asbestos sheet 11 of Pruden is connected to the ironing board via the metal sheet and fastening elements 17. There is no indication in Pruden, nor does it appear possible, that the protective sheathing of Pruden has “a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner,” as now recited in claim 10. If asbestos sheet 11 of Pruden had a contour capable of attaching the protective sheathing to wooden board 10 in a form-fitting manner, why would Pruden unite the metal and asbestos sheets 14, 11 “firmly against the wooden ironing board 10”? (See Page 1, Lines 64 to 68). Also, why would the top face and side and end edges of the wooden board 10 be caused to be engaged by the side, top side and edges of the asbestos sheet 11 in a “pressed relation” by the act of applying the metal sheet 14 over the asbestos sheet 11?

Withdrawal of the rejections to the claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Leonard, U.S. Patent No. 2,554,111

Claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Leonard (U.S. Patent No. 2,554,111).

Leonard discloses a magnetic electric iron and a specially constructed ironing board to cooperate with the iron. (Col. 2, Lines 22 to 24). The board includes a wooden base 43, a iron or steel plate 46 bent around the outer edges of the base and an ironing pad 48 fitted around the iron plate 46 and secured to base 43 and layer of hard textile material such as muslin 49 is applied directly on top of pad 48. (See Col. 5, Lines 28 to 43).

Claim 10, as amended, recites a heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board.

It is respectfully submitted that Leonard does not disclose “the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner,” as now recited in claim 10. There is no indication in Leonard that pad 48 has a contour capable of attaching pad 48 to base 43 in a form fitting manner.

Withdrawal of the rejections to the claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Adilleta, U.S. Patent No. 3,324,584

Claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Adilleta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,324,584).

Adilleta et al. discloses an ironing board in which a single ironing surface incorporates a bifurcated portion upon which sleeves and other tubular garments or articles may be ironed as well as providing an ironing surface for general purpose ironing. (Col. 1, Lines 16 to 21). In one embodiment, a pad 20 and cover 22 are secured to the surface of a wood table 27 by means of a plurality of clips 29 spaced peripherally around the board in a groove 28 formed in the underside of the table top.

Claim 10, as amended, recites a heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board.

It is respectfully submitted that Adilleta et al. does not disclose “the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner,” as now recited in claim 10. Pad 20 of Adilleta et al. is connected to table 27 “by means of a plurality of clips 29,” and there is no indication in Adilleta et al. that cover 22 has a contour capable of attaching cover 22 to table 27 in the form-fitting manner.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 10, 14, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Musker, European Patent Office No. 43,700

Claims 10, 14, 18, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Musker (EP Patent No. 0 043 700).

Musker discloses a cover including a foam backed fabric coated on its upper surface with heat reflective material. A hot melt adhesive is sprayed onto the exposed surface of the resilient foam layer. The adhesive is non-tacky at ambient temperatures but serves to bond the cover to the ironing board on application of dry heat and pressure. (Page 2, Lines 8 to 20).

Claim 10, as amended, recites a heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board.

It is respectfully submitted that Musker does not disclose “the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner,” as now recited in claim 10. It is respectfully submitted that the cover of Musker is attached to an ironing board via an adhesive and the foam layer does not have a contour capable of attaching the cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 10, 14, 18, 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 11 to 13 and 15 to 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 11, 15 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of any intervening claims.

Withdrawal of the objections to claims 11 to 13 and 15 to 17 is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,  
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